

Message Text

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ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 HEW-06 NSF-02 EPA-04 USIA-15

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2304

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS MOSCOW 5454

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: TGEN ETRN ENRG TBIO TSPA UR US

SUBJECT: US-USSR COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS: ANNOUNCING TRAVEL OF
DELEGATIONS AND EXCHANGEES (SPECIFIC MENTION OF HEALTH-03)

REF: LENINGRAD 0541.

1. EMBASSY SUPPORTS LENINGRAD CONGEN'S REQUEST THAT TRAVEL OF ALL
DELEGATIONS UNDER SUBJECT AGREEMENTS BE ANNOUNCED BY OFFICIAL CABLE.
IN CASE OF HEALTH AGREEMENT (03), SOVIET MINHEALTH INDEED
CONSCIENTIOUSLY DELIVERS ONCE-A-WEEK TO THE EMBASSY A BUNDLE OF
COPIES OF THE COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE SPECIAL LINK. SINCE THESE
MESSAGES ARE PERSONALITY-RATHER THAN SUBJECT-TAGGED (E.G. FOR
BLOKHIN, FOR TRAPEZNIKOV) AND ARE BASED ON ONGOING DEVELOPMENTS,
WE HAVE UNFORTUNATELY BEEN UNABLE TO SPARE REGULARLY THE EFFORT
IT WOULD TAKE FOR EVEN INCOMPLETE DECIPHERING. THUS WE ALSO HAVE
BEEN "SURPRISED" IN RECENT WEEKS-THE ARTIFICIAL-HEART DELEGATIONS
(FOR WHICH WE MOVED QUICKLY TO OBTAIN WIDE COVERAGE BY WESTERN
PRESS) AND A LONG-TERM HEALTH EXCHANGEES HAPPILY CALLED THE
EMBASSY SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL.

2. EMBASSY SUPPORTS EXISTENCE OF AN INTENDS NO CRITICISM FOR
DHEW-MINHEALTH SPECIAL COMMUNICATIONS LINK. THE HIGHLY SPECIALIZED,
NONPOLITICAL, AND NONCOMMERCIAL NATURE OF THE COMMUNICATIONS
UNDER THE HEALTH AGREEMENT MAKES THAT SYSTEM VERY ADVANTAGEOUS FOR
OPERATIONS, BUT THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL NATURE OF THE
COOPERATION MEANS THAT THE EMBASSY AND CONSULATE GENERAL ABSOLUTELY
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MUST BE INFORMED ON DELEGATE VISITS.

3. EMBASSY THEREFORE REQUESTS THAT BOTH THE TRAVEL PLANS AND COMPOSITIONS OF US DELEGATIONS UNDER THE HEALTH AGREEMENT BE SENT TO EMBASSY MOSCOW AND CONGEN LENINGRAD VIA DEPARTMENTAL CABLE. AMCONGEN LENINGRAD HAS COPIES OF NUMBERING SYSTEMS FOR AGREEMENT; DELEGATIONS AND EXHCNAGEES SHOULD BE DESIGNATED BY NUMBER OF PROJECT AREA. AS UNDER OTHER AGREEMENTS, DELEGATIONS AND EXCHANGEES SHOULD BE REQUESTED TO TELEPHONE EMBASSY (OR CONGEN) DURING WORKING HOURS SHORTLY AFTER ARRIVAL.

4. ALTHOUGH SCST HAS YET TO REPLY FORMALLY TO US-SIDE SUGGESTION ON USE OF NUMBERING SYSTEM, SEVERAL LEVELS OF MINISTRY OF HEALTH HAVE VOICED THEIR STRONG SUPPORT FOR IT, AND EVEN INDICATED THAT THIS SUPPORT HAS BEEN RELAYED BACK TO SCST. DHEW MAY WISH TO CONSIDER INSTITUTING USE OF THE SECTION NUMBERS IN THE COMMUNICATIONS IN THE SPECIAL LINK.

5. PLEASE ADVISE.
STOESSEL

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